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Montana Legislative Council

PO BOX 201706
Helena, Montana 59620-1706
(406) 444-3064
FAX (406) 444-3036

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Monday, June 25, 2001

Room 137, State Capitol

1:00 p.m.

1. **Call to order and roll call.** -- Senator Beck, Chair
2. **Approval of minutes of May 18, 2001, meeting (*action item*).**
3. **Introduction of new staff.** Lois Menzies will introduce the following employees who have recently joined the Legislative Services Division (LSD):
 - a. Karen Kueffler, Administrative Clerk
 - b. Jennifer Murray, Accounting Technician
4. **Conversion of selected information technology (IT) contracted services (*action item*).** Hank Trenk will present a proposal for converting certain IT contracted resources into permanent staff (FTEs). LSD staff is requesting the Council's approval to proceed with this proposal.
5. **Compensatory time status report.** The Legislative Branch Administrative Manual requires division directors to "provide a report to their approving committees on the status of the old fund [compensatory time] balances and management plan by June 30 of each year". ("Old fund" compensatory time is compensatory time earned by staff on or before October 20, 2000.) Lois Menzies will present this report and discuss plans for managing "new fund" compensatory time (i.e., time earned after October 20, 2000.)
6. **Salary adjustments for Legislative Services Division staff.** Lois Menzies will report on proposals for distributing the 4% statewide salary adjustment and the Legislative Branch market-based salary adjustment approved by the 2001

Legislature.

7. **Report from Legislative Council's Management Subcommittee.** The Management Subcommittee will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, June 25 with Jim Kerins, who is under contract to provide human resources services to the Legislative Branch. Subcommittee members will provide a report to the full Council on their discussions and deliberations.
8. **Progress report on codification.** Codification is the process by which laws enacted during a legislative session are compiled as part of the permanent statutes. Carol Ann Jacobsen, Chief Editor, will update members on the 2001 codification project.
9. **Class action suit challenging electrical deregulation (*action item*).** Recently a class action suit was filed challenging electrical deregulation. The suit names as defendants several legislators from the 1997 Legislature. Valencia Lane, Staff Attorney, will discuss the suit. LSD staff is asking for the Council's permission to file a response to the law suit.
10. **Interim committee items**
 - a. **Agency bill draft request review process (*action item*)** -- SB 10, enacted during the 2001 session, requires interim committees to "review proposed legislation of assigned agencies or entities. . . ." Dave Bohyer will review a proposal for interim committees to meet this statutory mandate. LSD staff is asking the Council to endorse the proposal.
 - b. **Request from Environmental Quality Council (EQC) for additional funding (*action item*).** EQC is requesting that its budget be increased to cover expenses associated with additional Council work this interim. Larry Mitchell, Resource Policy Analyst, will present EQC's request.
 - c. **Judicial redistricting study.** At the May meeting, the Council agreed to continue to study judicial redistricting. Lois Menzies will provide an update.
11. **Appointments to interstate committees and participation in interstate and international activities.** The Legislative Council has a statutory duty under 5-11-301, MCA, to serve as the state's "commission" on interstate and international cooperation. We discussed some of the issues surrounding appointments to and participation in interstate and international activities at our May meeting, and the Council agreed to revisit these issues.
12. **Visit from Kumamoto legislative delegation.** The Kumamoto legislative delegation will be visiting Helena in early August and would like to meet with a

delegation of Montana legislators. Mark Bisom from the Department of Commerce will provide details on the visit.

13. **Appointment of Uniform Law Commissioners (*action item*).** The Council is required under 1-12-101, MCA, to appoint three members to four-year terms on the Commission on Uniform State Laws. Members may be reappointed. The term for the current commissioners (Joe Mazurek; Ed Eck, Dean, University of Montana Law School; and Justice James Nelson) expire July 2001. Each commissioner has expressed interest in being reappointed. LSD staff is asking the Council for its recommendation regarding commissioner appointments.
14. **Session survey results.** Lois Menzies will present the results of two surveys conducted during the session by LSD. The purpose of the surveys was to measure the effectiveness of our services and to identify areas in need of improvement.
15. **LSD office and storage space issues (*action item*).** Lois Menzies will update the Council on efforts to address office and storage space issues in the Capitol.
16. **Montana Judicial Education Program legislator participation (*action item*).** The Montana Supreme Court has received grant money from the State Justice Institute to develop an integrated and unified plan for judicial education in Montana. This project is seeking the advisory participation of two legislators who are familiar with the Montana judiciary to advise the project governing body on ways to enhance the likelihood of gaining legislative support for an integrated education program. The project will pay travel costs; however, project administrators are asking the Council to provide funding for legislators' salaries (approximately \$1,070). Lois Menzies will provide more information about this request at the meeting.
17. **Strategic planning session.** Lois Menzies will provide additional information about our strategic planning session on Tuesday, June 26.
18. **Adjournment.**

Note: The next Legislative Council meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 21, 2001.